

1905.



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COUNTY BOROUGH OF BURTON-UPON-TRENT.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

FOR THE YEAR 1905,

BY

JAMES M. COWIE, M.D., D.P.H.,

*Medical Officer of Health, Medical Superintendent of Borough
Isolation Hospital, and Public Analyst.*

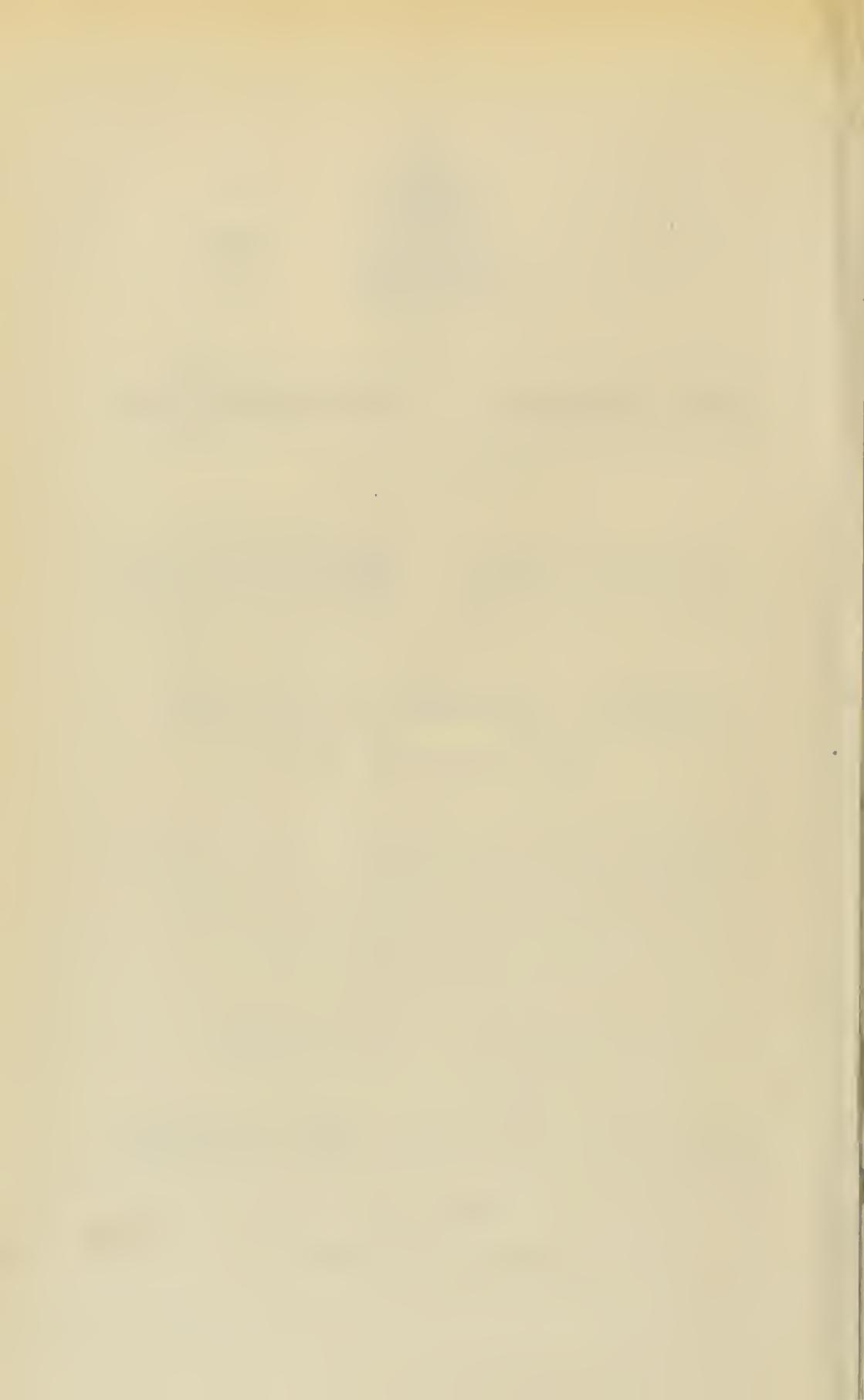
ALSO REPORT OF THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR

AND REPORT OF THE

SUPERINTENDENT OF THE REFUSE REMOVAL DEPARTMENT.

"HONOR ALIT ARTES."



County Borough of Burton-upon-Trent.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

THE MAYOR (ALDERMAN T. E. LOWE).

Chairman : ALDERMAN PARKER.

ALDERMAN T. TURNER

„ J. R. MORRIS

COUNCILLOR W. AUSTIN

„ J. W. A. BASSETT

„ A. BATES

„ F. J. CROAD

COUNCILLOR G. KENNARD

„ G. LATHBURY

„ J. SAMBLE

„ E. C. STACK

„ J. WILKINSON

Town Clerk :

MR. T. N. WHITEHEAD.

Borough Surveyor :

MR. G. T. LYNAM,

Assoc. M. Inst. C. E.

Medical Officer's Department.

Chief Sanitary Inspector : WM. READING.

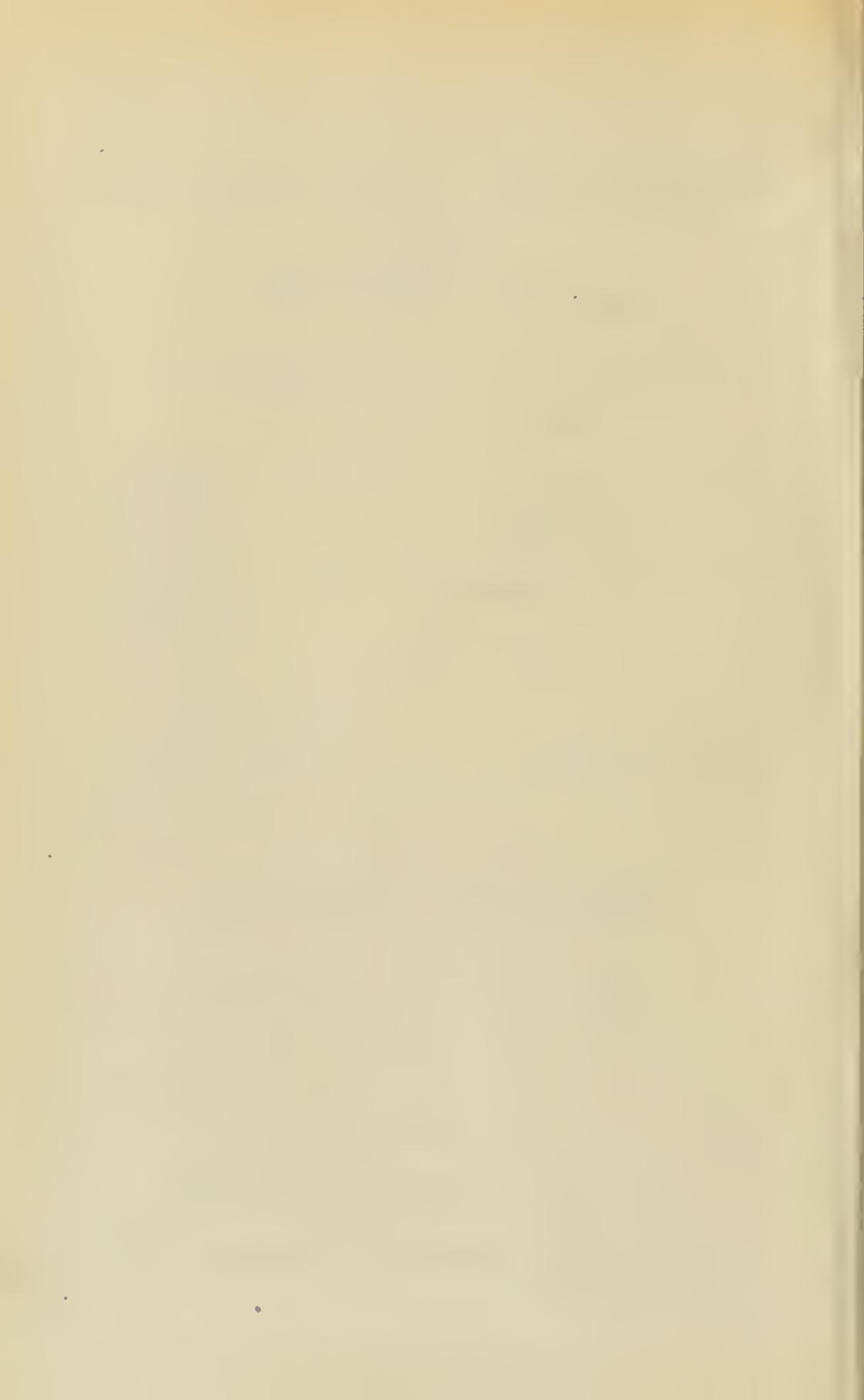
Assistant Sanitary Inspector : A. HUMPHRIES.

„ „ „ J. JENKINSON, A.S.I.

Clerk : C. GAUNT.

Matron of Borough Hospital : MISS BURTENSHAW.

Medical Officer of Health
and *Public Analyst* } JAMES M. COWIE, M.D., D.P.H.



County. Borough of Burton-upon-Trent.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	4,204
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	£335,373
Population at Census, 1901	...	...	...	...	50,386
Number of Persons to the Acre, 1901	...	...	...	...	12.0
Number of Persons per House at Census, 1901	...	...	...	...	4.91
Estimated Population at Mid-year, 1905	...	...	...	...	52,424
Estimated Birth-rate per 1,000 living, 1905	...	...	...	...	25.4
Average Birth-rate for previous 10 years	...	...	...	...	28.7
Estimated Death-rate per 1,000 living, 1905	...	...	...	...	11.65
Average Death-rate for previous 10 years	...	...	...	...	14.79
Deaths under 1 year to 1,000 births, 1905	...	...	...	...	87
Death-rate from Zymotic Diseases, 1905	...	...	...	...	0.6

Infectious Diseases Notification Act, 1889, adopted
December, 1892.

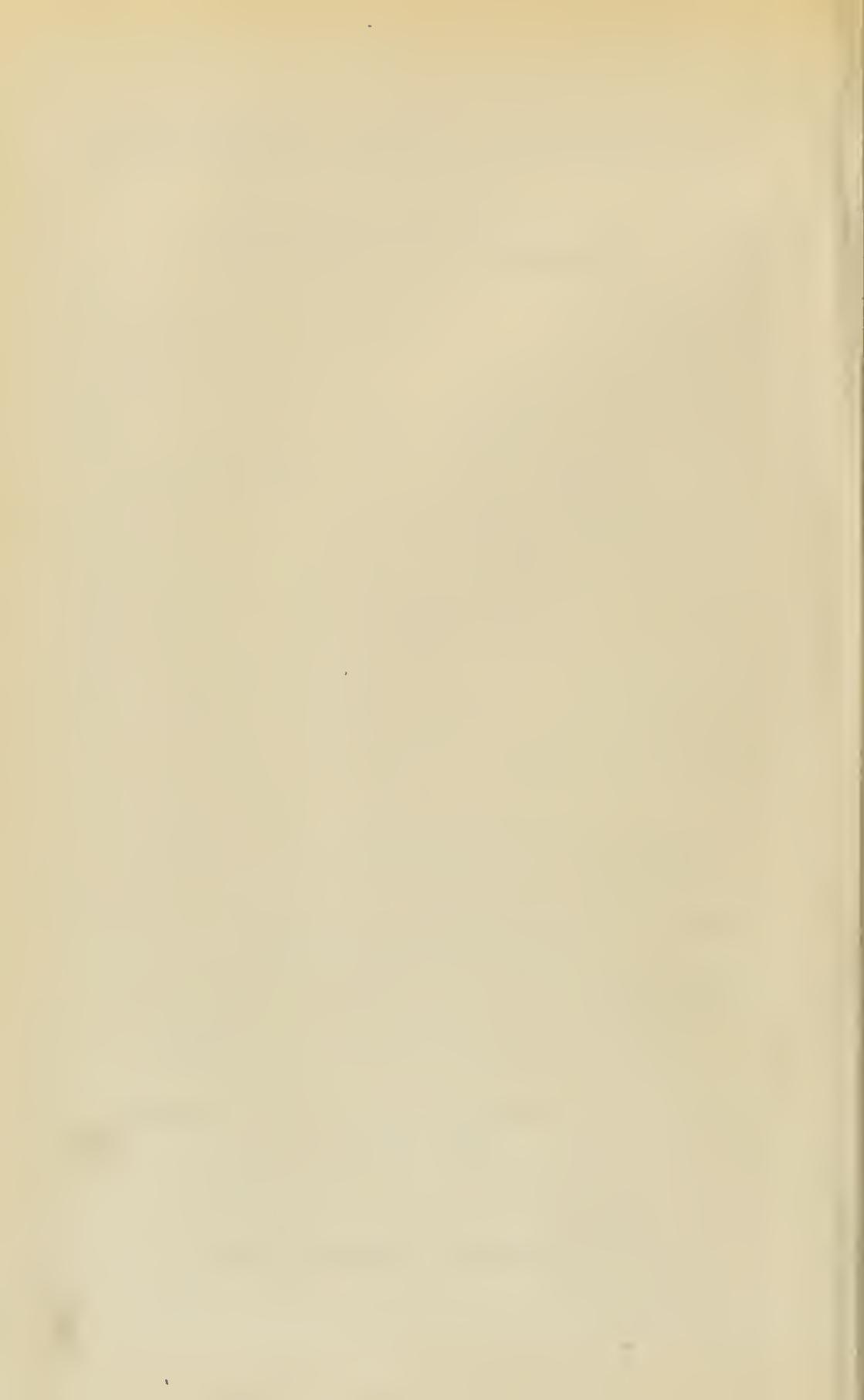
Infectious Diseases Notification Act re-applied to Measles
(for 3 years), December, 1899.
(Notification of Measles discontinued November, 1902.)

Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1890, adopted
November, 1891.

Public Health Amendment Act, 1890, Part iii, adopted
March, 1897.

Burton-upon-Trent Corporation Act, 1896.

Burton-upon-Trent Corporation Act, 1901.



HEALTH OFFICE,

TOWN HALL,

BURTON-UPON-TRENT,

17th March, 1906.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
HEALTH COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

I herewith submit for your consideration the Annual Report on the Health of the Borough for the year 1905.

The most satisfactory features in the report are that the death rate and the infantile mortality rate are the lowest yet recorded in the history of the Borough.

The birth rate also shows a decrease and is likewise the lowest recorded.

The alleged decrease in the population receives consideration, and the figures with reference to this are set forth in detail.

Although the number of infectious diseases notified show an increase over the previous year there was no serious outbreak to be dealt with.

The work done in the administration of the Midwives' Act will be found at the end of the Report.

I have pleasure in recording that the officials in the Health and Sanitary Departments and at the Isolation Hospital performed their duties to my entire satisfaction.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JAMES M. COWIE,

Medical Officer of Health.



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REPORT.

SITUATION.—The County Borough of Burton-upon-Trent is situated in the valley of the river Trent and on both its banks, in the Counties of Stafford and Derby. The east arm of the river forms the boundary between the counties so that the part of the town on the right bank of this part of the river is in Derbyshire and that on the left bank in Staffordshire. The mean elevation above sea level of the Derbyshire part of the town is 250 feet, and of the Staffordshire part of the town 150 feet. The highest elevation is 420 feet above sea level near the site of Moat Bank House, Ashby Road. The town is situated in N. Lat. $52^{\circ} 48'$ W. Long. $1^{\circ} 38'$.

AREA.—The area of the Borough is just under 4,204 acres.

POPULATION.—It is now nearly five years since the last Census enumeration and for this reason there is considerable difficulty in arriving at an approximately accurate estimation of the population. It is a matter of common report that the population of Burton is declining, and the number of

empty houses in the Borough is freely adduced as evidence of this. It will be shown further on in this report that the death rate and birth rate are the lowest on record in the history of the Borough, and because of this it becomes all the more necessary to show that these rates are not calculated on a population unduly inflated, thus giving a too moderate character to these statistics. The method usually adopted of estimating the population is that of the Registrar General, which is based on the assumption that the proportionate rate of increase during the year would be the same as during the previous intercensal period. By this method the population of the borough at the middle of 1905 was estimated to be 52,424.

While this will be adopted as the estimate probably nearest the correct figure, it is necessary to check these figures by other methods at our disposal.

The number of occupied houses at the middle of the year forms a useful guide to the population not only as a whole, but also to the variations of population in the different Wards. The average number of persons per house does not vary to any large extent. It may decrease slightly as it did between 1891 and 1901, where it decreased from 5.17 to 4.91, and assuming this decrease to have continued, the average number per house would now be 4.79. I might here point out that the average number of persons per house is more likely to be increased than decreased owing to bad trade causing many men to be out of work and many more on short time, as this would create a tendency for two families to occupy one house. The number of occupied houses multiplied by the average number of persons per house must give the total population.

The number of houses erected and the number demolished in the various Wards since the Census to the middle of 1905 is given in the following table:—

Year.	Shobnall Ward.	Victoria Ward.	Horn'glow Ward.	Uxbridge Ward.	Broadway Ward.	Burton Ward.	Winshill & Wetmore Ward.	Stapenhill Ward.	TOTALS.			
	House Erected	House Demolished	House Erected	House Demolished	House Erected	House Demolished	House Erected	House Demolished	House Erected	House Demolished	House Erected	
1901	17	0	73	0	85	0	0	0	0	11	0	237
1902	25	0	57	1	56	0	53	0	8	0	25	1
1903	11	0	89	0	26	0	37	0	2	0	34	1
1904	9	4	28	0	46	0	50	0	0	0	10	0
1905	6	3	11	0	24	0	28	0	0	0	6	0
<i>End of June.</i>										7	0	82
TOTALS	68	7	258	1	237	0	206	0	10	0	6	30
										48	0	93
											1	926
												39

The total number of houses in the Borough at the Census was 10,398. Applying the figures in the above table, the number at the end of June, 1905, was 11,288.

To get the number of occupied houses at that time the number of houses then unoccupied must be deducted from that total.

I am much indebted to Mr. Arnold, Borough Treasurer and Superintendent Assistant Overseer, for the following information as regards empty houses in June, 1905.

EMPTY HOUSES.

Shobnall	...	...	...	48
Victoria	...	..	...	25
Horniglow		...	...	44
Uxbridge	...	...	...	42
Broadway	..	...	...	26
Burton	...	...	...	45
Winshill and Wetmore		...	...	34
Stapenhill	...	...	...	20
				—
		Total	...	284
				—

The nett number of occupied houses in the Borough at the end of June, 1905, is therefore 11,004, and this multiplied by 4.79 (allowing for a decrease in the average number of persons per house) gives a population of 52,709. This method, where every unfavourable circumstance has been admitted gives rather more than the official estimate.

Another useful check is to be found in the number of children attending the public elementary schools in Burton. Mr. Graham, Secretary to the Education Committee, has kindly supplied me with the number of children attending these schools for June, 1901, and for June, 1905, as follows:—

		No. on books in schools, Standard I and upwards.	No. on books in Infant Schools.	Total.
June, 1901	...	7159	3725	10,884
June, 1905	...	7693	2870	10,563

The numbers attending the infant schools show a reduction of 855, but the figures for these two years are not strictly comparable. Mr. Graham informs me that the names of infants absent from school are not now kept on the rolls for so long a time as formerly, and that this accounts for some diminution in the number on the books.

Another reason which would have some weight also, is, that probably not quite so many children aged 3 to 5 now attend school as formerly.

The rapidly decreasing birth rate would also have an effect, but as this has been going on steadily for over 20 years, would also influence adversely the numbers attending the senior departments. For these reasons, the numbers in the schools above the infant departments are much more reliable and show an increase of 534. If 7159 children represent a population of 50,628, then 7693 children would represent a population of 54,404.

From these various checks it is evident that the estimated population of 52,424 is by no means an exaggerated one.

NATURAL INCREASE.—The excess of births over deaths which is known as the natural increase, is greater than the estimated actual increase in the population as is shown in the following table :—

Year.	Births.	Deaths.	Natural Increase.
1901 (from Census)	1064	532	532
1902 	1365	705	660
1903 	1366	653	713
1904 	1354	815	539
1905 (end of June)	655	353	302
<hr/>			
TOTALS ...	5804	3058	2746

Thus the natural increase since the Census is 2746, as compared with an estimated actual increase of 2038.

WARD POPULATION.—The Borough was divided into 8 Wards by the Burton-upon-Trent Corporation Act, 1901. The population of these Wards as at the Census is set forth in the Census returns for Staffordshire, but for the approximate estimate of the population in these Wards in the middle of 1905, we have to depend on the number of inhabited houses.

I am indebted to Mr. Lynam, Borough Engineer and Surveyor, for the following table of new houses certified fit for occupation during the year.

Wards.	For whole year.	To June 30, 1905.
Broadway
Burton
Horninglow	...	47
Shobnall	...	13
Stapenhill	...	9
Uxbridge	...	54
Victoria	...	24
Winshill	...	9
-		
Totals	156	82

Three houses were demolished in the Shobnall Ward in December, 1905.

By applying these figures and those in the table of empty houses and the table of houses erected since the Census already given, the population in the various Wards is estimated to be as follows :—

Ward.		Population, 1905	Population Census 1901
Shobnall	...	7115	7144
Victoria	...	6977	5962
Horninglow	...	6817	6043
Uxbridge	...	7687	7052
Broadway	...	6593	6793
Burton	...	5597	5906
Winshill and Wetmore	...	5977	6060
Stapenhill	...	5661	5426
Totals	...	52,424	50,386

DENSITY OF POPULATION.—The number of persons per acre estimated to the middle of 1905, was 12·47.

BIRTH RATE.—The total number of births registered during the year was 1333. This number is 21 less than last year, and 93 less than the average for the last 10 years.

The birth rate was equal to 25·4 per 1000 of the estimated population, being lower by 0·6 than the rate for the previous year and 3·3 below the average of the previous 10 years.

The birth rate for England and Wales for 1905 was 27·2.

It will be observed from the above that the birth rate in the Borough is still decreasing, and there is no sign that the rate of decrease is abating.

BIRTH RATE IN WARDS.—As usual, considerable variations in the birth rate was observed in the various Wards in the Borough, the highest rate of 29·5 being recorded in the Uxbridge Ward, and the lowest in the Broadway and Burton Wards where the rate was 22·1 and 21·0 per 1000 respectively.

Of the 1333 births 684 were of males and 649 of females ; of these 26 males and 31 females were illegitimate, equal to 4·2 per cent. of the total number of births ; a percentage higher by 0·2 than that of last year.

As usual, the greatest percentage of illegitimate births was recorded in the Shobnall Ward, this being due to the presence of the Workhouse in this Ward.

The next highest percentages were recorded in the Winshill and Stapenhill Wards, and the lowest in Horninglow.

These facts are shown in the following tables—

WARD.	Population	Total Number of Births.	Illegitimate Births.	Percentage of Illegitimate Births.	Birth Rate.
Shobnall	7115	174	26	14.9	24·4
Victoria	6977	193	4	2·0	27·6
Horninglow	6817	179	2	1·1	26·2
Uxbridge	7687	227	4	1·7	29·5
Broadway	6593	146	4	2·7	22·1
Burton	5597	118	3	2·5	21·0
Winshill and Wetmore	5977	154	8	5·2	25·7
Stapenhill	5661	142	6	4·2	25·0
TOTALS	52424	1333	57	4·2	25·4

BIRTHS, 1905.

Month.	Shobnall.		Victoria.		Horniglow		Uxbridge.		Broadway.		Burton		Winshill & Wetmore.		Stapenhill.		TOTALS.			
	M		F		M		F		M		F		M		F		M		F	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
January	4	7	5	8	9	9	11	12	9	5	11	8	3	3	7	6	8	18	55	70
February	5	5	10	11	11	11	6	8	22	6	11	5	3	3	10	6	6	1	55	47
March	7	7	5	8	6	6	6	6	13	9	6	3	3	2	4	4	5	5	55	55
April	12	11	6	5	6	4	10	9	6	9	8	9	1	9	5	6	7	48	47	
May	12	11	6	5	6	4	11	18	3	5	5	5	4	6	6	5	11	3	69	
June	3	6	9	12	5	11	18	18	13	4	9	7	4	5	4	5	3	4	55	
July	6	7	7	7	9	9	8	11	12	14	4	3	10	6	9	4	8	2	6	
August	7	7	9	11	7	8	8	8	8	11	3	7	4	2	9	4	6	6	58	
September	5	9	2	7	10	6	6	6	5	12	6	4	7	5	6	4	4	2	56	
October	13	2	7	5	5	8	7	9	5	10	11	5	7	10	4	4	5	5	48	
November	9	5	5	6	8	8	6	4	10	5	6	4	3	10	4	4	7	6	55	
December	8	8	8	6	8	8	6	4	10	5	6	4	3	10	4	4	7	6	51	
TOTALS	90	84	91	102	82	97	126	101	70	76	69	49	87	67	69	73	684	649		
Illegitimate	14	12	1	3	1	1	4	0	0	0	4	1	2	4	1	4	1	5	26	31

MARRIAGES.—The number of marriages solemnized in Burton during 1905 was 434, a decrease of 64 as compared with the previous year. A small number of these took place at the Registrar's office between persons not residing within the Borough.

The marriage rate per 1000 is 8.3, the lowest rate ever recorded in Burton, with the exception of 1891 and 1896, when the rate was 0.1 per 1000 lower. If the marriage rate be accepted as the gauge of the prosperity of a place, especially of future anticipated prosperity, this state of affairs can scarcely be regarded as satisfactory.

I am indebted to Alfred Coxon, Esq., Superintendent Registrar of the district of Burton-on-Trent for the following figures relating to marriages, which show that the third quarter of the year was responsible for the greater part of the decrease :—

	1905	1904	1903	1902
First Quarter	...	83	83	96
Second Quarter	...	120	138	119
Third Quarter	...	108	142	155
Fourth Quarter	...	123	135	127
	—	—	—	—
Total	...	434	498	497
				464

The figures for previous years in Burton, and in England and Wales, are given in the following table :—

		Total number of marriages in Burton.	Marriage-rate per 1000 of the population in Burton	Marriage-rate per 1000 of the population in England and Wales.
1890	...	415	9.1	15.5
1891	...	379	8.2	15.6
1892	...	421	9.0	15.4
1893	...	422	9.0	14.7
1894	...	424	9.0	15.0
1895	...	421	8.8	15.0
1896	...	394	8.2	15.7
1897	...	476	9.8	16.0
1898	...	484	9.9	16.2
1899	...	482	9.7	16.5
1900	...	455	9.1	16.0
1901	...	533	10.3	15.9
1902	...	464	9.1	15.8
1903	...	497	9.6	15.7
1904	...	498	9.6	15.2
1905	...	434	8.3	...

DEATH RATE.—The total number of deaths registered during the year was 641, of these 371 were of males, and 270 of females. Included in this number are 32 males and 16 females not belonging to the borough, where the deaths occurred in the General Infirmary or Workhouse. These have to be deducted.

Again, the deaths of 8 males and 10 females belonging to the Borough where the deaths took place in institutions outside the borough have to be added. The nett number of deaths is, therefore, 347 males and 264 females, a total of 611.

The nett death rate was 11.65 per 1000 of the estimated population as compared with 14.79 for the previous 8 years.

The death rate for England and Wales was 15.2.

It should here be pointed out that in previous years the deaths of pauper lunatics occurring in Asylums outside the Borough were not included in the returns, but by the kindness of Mr. Chamberlin, Clerk to the Guardians, I have this year been able to remedy this defect. In this way the deaths of 13 pauper lunatics are included in the above total.

The institutions outside the Borough in which deaths of Burtonians occurred are the following: Borough Isolation Hospital, Burntwood Asylum, Queen's Hospital, Birmingham, General Hospital, Birmingham, and Childrens' Hospital, Birmingham.

DEATH RATE IN WARDS.

Wards.		Number of Deaths.	Death-rate per 1000.
Shobnall	...	81	11.3
Victoria	...	59	8.4
Horninglow	...	81	11.8
Uxbridge	...	84	10.9
Broadway	...	63	9.5
Burton	...	108	19.2
Winshill and Wetmore	...	57	9.5
Stapenhill	...	78	13.7
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TOTALS	...	611	11.65

The highest death rate was recorded in the Burton Ward, and the lowest in the Victoria Ward. In practically every instance where a death took place in the Infirmary or the Workhouse, the previous address of the patient was ascertained and the death transferred to the original address.

CORRECTED DEATH RATE.—In order that the death rates of different places can be fairly compared, it is essential to know whether the respective populations are made up of sexes in the same proportion, and whether they contain the same proportion of persons in the various age groups.

To correct a death rate, for age and sex distribution, the Registrar General has published tables giving the factors by which the recorded death rate has to be multiplied. For Burton the factor is 1.0747, and this being applied gives a death rate corrected for age and sex distribution of 12.5.

The following table gives the death rate in a number of towns of similar size to Burton :—

Town.		Estimated Population, 1905.	Death-rate per 1000, 1905.
Aston Manor	...	81,320	14·1
Ashton-under-Lyne	...	44,880	18·2
Bath	...	50,000	14·48
Blackpool	...	55,712	12·21
Bootle	...	63,000	16·6
Burton-upon-Trent	...	52,424	11·65
Bury	...	58,594	16·46
Carlisle	...	47,920	16·3
Cheltenham	...	50,500	14·8
Coventry	...	75,134	14·6
Crewe	...	46,578	13·5
Hanley	...	64,667	19·9
Huddersfield	...	94,899	16·97
Kings Norton and North Field		69,630	9·6
Lancaster	...	44,570	12·47
Lincoln	...	51,882	18·5
Newport, (Mon.)	...	72,882	15·9
Northampton	...	91,230	12·7
Oxford	...	50,886	13·03
Rotherham	...	61,000	13·93
Stockton-on-Tees	...	53,649	17·59
Swansea	...	99,530	16·4
Swindon	...	49,050	11·2
Tynemouth	...	53,542	19·9
Wallasey	...	58,500	13·19
Warrington	...	69,153	16·9
West Bromwich	...	67,823	16·7
West Hartlepool	...	66,744	16·8
Wigan	...	88,306	18·07
Wimbledon	...	48,240	8·2
Wolverhampton	...	99,559	14·8
York	...	82,362	14·2

CAUSES OF DEATH.—As compared with the previous year the reason for the decline in the death rate may be seen from the following tables of gains and losses where the number of deaths from various causes are set forth side by side for the two years.

GAINS.

Disease.		No. of deaths 1904.	No. of deaths 1905.	Decrease.
Scarlet Fever	...	6	1	5
Whooping Cough	...	41	3	38
Epidemic Influenza	...	25	15	10
Diarrhoea	...	21	13	8
Enteritis	...	11	9	2
Puerperal Fever	...	1	0	1
Erysipelas	...	3	2	1
Phthisis	...	76	66	10
Cancer	...	44	40	4
Bronchitis	...	69	49	20
Pneumonia	...	47	30	17
Pleurisy	...	3	2	1
Other diseases of the respiratory organs	...	7	1	6
Alcoholism & Cirrhosis of the Liver	...	17	11	6
Venereal diseases	...	6	3	3
Marasmus & Premature births		49	42	7
Heart diseases	...	69	59	10
Accidents	...	25	14	11
Suicides	...	4	3	1
Hemiplegia and Apoplexy	...	14	10	4
Old age	...	47	35	12
Convulsions	...	11	3	8
Bright's disease	...	23	14	9
• TOTALS	...	619	425	194

LOSSES.

Disease.		No. of deaths 1904.	No. of deaths 1905.	Increase.
Measles	...	5	9	4
Other septic diseases	...	0	1	1
Enteric Fever	...	0	2	2
Other tubercular diseases	...	19	24	5
Congenital defects and all other causes	...	119	130	11
TOTALS	...	143	166	23

Diphtheria and Membranous Croup (7 deaths) Diseases and Accidents of parturition (4 deaths) each caused the same number of deaths as last year, while the number of uncertified deaths was also the same.

We have here shown a total gain of 194 against a total loss of 23, making a net gain of 171 lives saved during the year as compared with the previous year.

The chief gains are shown under two groups of diseases, viz. :—Specific infectious diseases, and diseases of the Chest.

With the exception of Measles, Enteric Fever, and Diphtheria, all the chief specific infectious diseases showed substantial gains, the most marked instance being Whooping Cough, which was the cause of 38 fewer deaths than in 1904.

The marked decrease in the chief respiratory diseases is probably associated with the mild character of the weather during the greater part of the year, the more especially with the comparative rarity of dense fogs during the latter part of the year.

A gratifying decrease in the number of deaths from phthisis is unfortunately balanced by a considerable increase in the number of deaths from other tubercular diseases.

On the whole the year was a particularly fortunate one, as even the number of accidental deaths and suicides shows a decrease.

UNCERTIFIED DEATHS AND INQUESTS.—During the year the Coroner deemed an inquest necessary in 42 cases, while in 9 cases no certificate from a medical practitioner or Coroner was received, these deaths being classified as uncertified. The verdicts of the Coroners' juries in the inquest cases were recorded as follows :—

INQUESTS, 1905.

Cause of death.

Foreign substance in windpipe (operation)	...	1
Burns	...	6
Suicide by hanging	...	1
Cancer	...	1
Fall in Street	...	1
Tetanus	...	1
Illegal Operation	...	1
Septic Meningitis following a fall	...	1
Rupture of Spleen and fractured Pelvis	...	1
“Overlaying”	...	2
Crushed by Van wheel	...	2
Suffocated by furniture becoming ignited	...	1
Heart Disease	...	4
Fall of coal in mine	...	2
Swallowed a fish bone	...	1
Suicide by cutting throat	...	2

Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	1
Asphyxia caused by grain of Indian corn				...	1
Epidemic Diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	1
Killed by railway train	...	...	...	...	1
Fractured leg, plugged pulmonary artery				...	1
Obstruction of the bowels	...	...	...	...	1
Suicide by drowning	...	...	...	...	1
Insufficient and improper feeding	...	...	...	...	1
Fractured thigh, followed by Pneumonia				...	1
Natural causes	...	...	...	...	5
					—
Total			...	42	
					—

Twelve of these inquests were on cases which did not belong to the Borough.

In the 9 uncertified deaths the probable cause of death was given as under:—

UNCERTIFIED DEATHS.

Age.		Sex.	Probable cause of death.
1 month	...	F	Convulsions
23 months	...	F	Measles
½ hour	...	M	Natural causes
11 months	...	M	Convulsions
10 minutes	...	F	Premature birth
47 years	...	M	Epilepsy
11 months	...	M	Marasmus
13 hours	...	F	Convulsions
45 minutes	...	F	Inanition

It is a serious defect of our registration laws that such uncertified deaths are allowed to be registered. In cases where there was no medical attendant the registrar must accept the statement of the "qualified informant" and register his opinion of the cause of death however incorrect that may be.

Another feature of this question is that the great majority of these deaths occur in infants under 1 year of age, and indeed, form a considerable proportion of all deaths under 1 month of age.

Of the 9 uncertified deaths, 7 were of children under 12 months of age, 4 of those having lived less than a week.

In England and Wales in 1902 the percentage of uncertified deaths was 1·80, but in some registration counties it amounted to over 6 per cent.

The percentage in Burton was 1·4.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.—The mortality amongst children under 1 year of age is what is known as the infantile mortality, and when the number of deaths at this age period is expressed as a rate per 1000 of the births during the same year, we have the infantile mortality rate.

The excessive number of deaths under 1 year of age is the most prominent question occupying the attention of sanitarians at the present time, especially in our large centres of population where in some instances the rate reaches the enormous figure of 200 per 1000 births.

Happily Burton is more fortunately placed in this respect, and has been so for a number of years.

During the year under review the number of deaths of children under 1 year of age was 116, the number of births was 1333, giving an infantile mortality rate of 87, as compared with 118 per 1000 births during the previous year.

This is the lowest infantile mortality rate ever recorded in the Borough. The next best year was 1903 with 121 deaths and a rate of 89. These two are the only years on record where the rate fell below 100.

The rate for England and Wales was 128.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

	1905.	1904.	1903.	1902.	1901.
Total number of deaths under 1 year of age	116	160	121	155	148
Total number of births registered	1333	1354	1366	1365	1385
Infantile Mortality (deaths per 1000 births)	87	118	89	113	106
Infantile Mortality (England and Wales)	128	146	132	133	151
Infantile Mortality (76 great towns)	140	160	144	145	
Average Infantile Mortality in Burton for the 10 years 1895-1904		124			

The causes of death of infants under 12 months of age were as follows :—

INFANTILE DEATHS.

Measles	...	...	...	2
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	2
Diarrhœa	...	...	...	9
Enteritis	...	...	...	6

Gastritis	...	...	...	1
Premature Birth	...	...	24	
Congenital Defects	...	...	4	
Injury at birth	...	...	1	
Debility, or Marasmus	...	23		
Tubercular Meningitis	...	3		
Syphilis	...	...	1	
Meningitis	...	...	3	
Rickets	...	...	2	
Convulsions	...	...	6	
Bronchitis	...	...	11	
Pneumonia	...	...	5	
“Overlaying”	...	...	2	
Other causes	...	...	11	
				—
			116	—

It will be seen from the above list that a considerable number of the deaths may be classed as being due to preventable causes, while others are absolutely non-preventable. Under the former would be included such causes as Measles, Whooping Cough, Diarrhoea, Enteritis, Gastritis, Marasmus, Tubercular diseases, Syphilis, Rickets, Convulsions, and overlaying, while under the latter would be classed Premature Birth, Congenital Defects, and Injury at Birth.

INFANT FEEDING.—A large number of these deaths such as those included under the headings of Diarrhoea, Enteritis, Gastritis, and certainly a large proportion of those classified as being due to Debility or Marasmus, Rickets, and Convulsions, is due to the improper feeding of infants, and therefore preventable.

On the whole the number of such deaths is proportionately less than in the majority of the other large towns, due no doubt to the fact that in Burton comparatively few mothers go out to work, and consequently more care is bestowed on the children.

A pamphlet on infant feeding has since 1902 been given to every person registering the birth of a child. It is hoped by this means that some little benefit may accrue in those places where it is mostly wanted, that is, amongst the poorer classes. Undoubtedly, in a large number of instances these pamphlets will be given to persons who have no need of them, but it would be unwise to make any distinction.

A better plan is to instruct the elder girls in our public elementary schools in the principles of infant feeding and the care of the young. It is gratifying to be able to record that the Education Committee have already taken steps in this matter, and in October, 1905, sent a circular to the teachers requesting them to take every opportunity, and especially during instruction in Domestic Economy, of giving lessons on the necessity for care in the proper feeding and rearing of the young. It is to be hoped that the Education Committee will see their way at an early date to still further develop this matter, so that every girl before leaving school may receive proper instruction in this very important subject.

By these means there is hope that the mortality from these preventable diseases, mostly caused by improper feeding, will still further be reduced.

The gradual conversion of privy middens and pan closets to the water carriage system which is going on in the Borough, may also be cited as an influence antagonistic to the prevalence of zymotic diarrhoea amongst children, for by this means an important factor in the etiology of this disease, viz., the fouling of the soil around the houses and the contamination of wells is to a large extent prevented.

INFANTILE MORTALITY IN WARDS.

Ward.		Number of Births	Percentage of Illegitimate Births.	Number of Deaths under 1 year	Infantile Mortality Rate
Shobnall	...	174	14.9	13	74
Victoria	...	193	2.0	10	52
Horninglow	...	179	1.1	13	72
Uxbridge	...	227	1.7	25	110
Broadway	...	146	2.7	10	68
Burton	...	118	2.5	14	110
Winshill & Wetmore		154	5.2	13	84
Stapenhill	...	142	4.2	18	126
Totals	...	1333	4.2	116	87

The highest rates are recorded in Stapenhill, Burton, and Uxbridge Wards, and the lowest in Victoria and Broadway Wards.

The number of deaths of illegitimate children under 1 year of age was 12.

As was pointed out last year, the mortality rate amongst illegitimate children is much higher than amongst children born in wedlock, as is shown for a number of years in the following table :—

	1905	1904	1903	1902	1901	1900
Deaths of legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate births ...	81	110	83	104	102	142
Deaths of illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate births ...	210	314	235	340	229	350

STILL BIRTHS. -No record of still born children may be made in a register of births and deaths, but if a child be born alive, even though it only survives a few minutes, both the birth and the death must be registered. The Report of the Committee of the House of Commons on Death Certification says :—

“There is reason to think that if the statistics on the subject could be obtained it would be found that the number of children buried in the United Kingdom as still born is enormous, and the Committee are convinced that the absence of legal requirement that such should be registered prior to the disposal of the bodies is fraught with very serious danger to child life.”

There is certainly here a serious defect in the Registration Act, but this has recently been remedied to some extent by the Central Midwives Board which by rule 18 renders it compulsory on every registered midwife to notify all still births to the local supervising Authority.

I am indebted to Mr. Rudd, Registrar of the Cemetery, for the information that 54 burials of still-born children took place in the Cemetery during the year.

As only 8 notifications of still births were received from midwives during the year, there is ground for suspicion that these cases are not all being notified.

The infantile mortality in a number of towns of similar size to Burton is set forth below.

Town.		Estimated Population, 1905.	Infantile mortality, 1905.
Aston Manor	...	81,320	149
Ashton-under-Lyne	...	44,880	179
Bath	...	50,000	89
Blackpool	...	55,712	127
Bootle	...	63,000	154
Burton-upon-Trent	...	52,424	87
Bury	...	58,594	146
Carlisle	...	47,920	139
Cheltenham	...	50,500	131
Coventry	...	75,134	108
Crewe	...	46,578	131
Hanley	...	64,667	193
Huddersfield	...	94,899	119
Kings Norton and Northfield	...	69,630	91
Lancaster	...	44,570	105
Lincoln	...	51,882	145
Newport, (Mon.)	...	72,880	124
Northampton	...	91,230	123
Oxford	...	50,866	118
Rotherham	...	61,000	123
Stockton-on-Tees	...	53,649	149
Swansea	...	99,530	131
Swindon	...	49,050	95
Tynemouth	...	53,542	159
Wallasey	...	58,500	98
Warrington	...	69,153	147
West Bromwich	...	67,823	150
West Hartlepool	...	66,744	139
Wigan	...	88,306	163
Wimbledon	...	48,240	69
Wolverhampton	...	99,559	136
York	...	82,362	130

Another table showing the infantile mortality during the year 1905, in age periods of weeks and months will be found at the end of the report. (Table V.)

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULAR DISEASES.—During the year 66 deaths were registered from pulmonary phthisis, a decrease of 10 as compared with the previous year.

This is equal to a phthisis death rate of 1.2 per 1000 as compared with a rate of 1.5 last year.

The number of deaths from tubercular diseases other than pulmonary phthisis was 24, an increase of 5 over the previous year, and equal to a rate of 0.45.

PREVENTIVE MEASURES.—There is no notification of tubercular phthisis in any form in force in the Borough, but for some 4 years now all houses where deaths have taken place from consumption have been disinfected. This procedure was followed during the year in question.

ZYMATIC DEATH RATE was 0.6 as compared with 1.52 last year. It is more fully referred to under infectious diseases.

CANCER.—During the year there were 40 deaths from cancer registered as against 44 last year, and 56 in 1903. This is equal to a cancer death rate of 0.76 per 1000. Considering the undoubted tendency for the cancer rate to increase as was shown last year, the small decrease this year, especially if taken along with the considerable decrease in 1904, must be regarded as satisfactory. Only two of the cases occurred in houses known to have previously been occupied by a cancer patient, but the intervals of time were so considerable that little importance can be attached to the fact. Several other cases occurred at addresses in close proximity to those already registered as the place of death of cancer patients.

Several houses were disinfected during the year after a death from cancer. This is only done on a request being received.

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.—The total number of notifications received was 380, as compared with 233 in the preceding year. The chief increase was found in the number of cases of scarlet fever, but increases are also registered in erysipelas, diphtheria, and enteric fever, while decreases occurred in the number of cases of smallpox and puerperal fever. Measles and chicken pox are no longer notifiable. The following table shows the notifications of each disease for a number of years :—

NOTIFICATION OF ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

TABLE.

	1905	1904	1903	1902	1901	1900	1899	1898	1897	1896	1895
Scarlet Fever ...	233	106	179	256	201	110	322	314	351	284	317
Small Pox ...	0	13	37	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	1
Diphtheria ...	58	46	25	53	161	414	46	55	72	156	101
Enteric Fever...	12	8	17	10	65	24	37	25	46	34	86
Puerperal Fever	3	5	2	7	3	3	6	1	2	1	3
Erysipelas ...	74	55	26	51	66	78	77	70	79	80	78
Total	380	233	286	377	496	629	488	465	550	560	586
Chicken Pox ...		60	249								
Measles ...	—	—	—	1604	138	2690	25	2048	272	2453	96

ZYMOTIC DEATH RATE.—The number of deaths from the 7 principal zymotic diseases (smallpox, scarlet fever, enteric fever, diphtheria, whooping cough, measles, and diarrhoea) was 35, which is equal to a zymotic death rate of 0.6, as compared with 1.52 last year.

The chief decrease occurred in the number of whooping cough deaths, although slight changes were also recorded in the other diseases as can be seen from the following table :—

	1905	1904	1903	1902	1901	1900	1899	1898
Diphtheria ...	7	6	3	5	16	68	8	11
Scarlet Fever ...	1	6	6	16	5	0	7	2
Epidemic Diarrhoea ...	13	21	15	6	34	36	52	50
Whooping Cough ...	3	41	8	9	27	13	22	2
Enteric Fever	2	0	1	0	10	3	10	3
Measles	9	5	4	19	2	45	0	31
Smallpox	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Totals ...	35	79	38	55	94	165	99	99

The zymotic death rates for Burton and for England and Wales for several years are shown in the following table :—

	1905	1904	1903	1902	1901	1900	1899	1898	1897	1896	1895	1894
England & Wales ...	1.52	1.94	1.46	1.64	2.05	2.0	2.21	2.22	2.15	2.18	2.14	2.25
Burton-upon-Trent ..	0.6	†1.52	0.7	†1.12	1.85	*3.09	1.88	1.93	1.78	*3.83	1.48	2.0

* Measles and Diphtheria prevalent.

† Measles and Whooping Cough prevalent.

‡ Measles prevalent.

The zymotic death rate in Burton is compared with that in a number of towns of similar size in the following table:—

Town.		Estimated population, 1905.	Zymotic death rate.
Aston Manor	...	81,320	2.0
Ashton-under-Lyne	...	44,880	1.8
Bath	...	50,000	1.16
Blackpool	...	55,712	1.01
Bootle	...	63,000	2.6
Burton-upon-Trent	...	52,424	0.6
Bury	...	58,594	1.19
Carlisle	...	47,920	1.3
Cheltenham	...	50,500	1.46
Coventry	...	75,134	1.47
Crewe	...	46,578	1.67
Hanley	...	64,667	2.8
Huddersfield	...	94,899	1.13
Kings Norton and Northfield	...	69,630	0.7
Lancaster	...	44,570	1.52
Lincoln	...	51,882	1.2
Newport (Mon.)	...	72,880	1.2
Northampton	...	91,230	1.03
Oxford	...	50,866	1.12
Rotherham	...	61,000	1.16
Stockton-on-Tees	...	53,649	2.53
Swansea	...	99,530	1.34
Swindon	...	49,050	0.81
Tynemouth	...	53,542	1.38
Wallasey	...	58,500	1.09
Warrington	...	69,153	2.7
West Bromwich	...	67,823	3.5
West Hartlepool	...	66,744	1.64
Wigan	...	88,306	3.23
Wimbledon	...	48,240	0.78
Wolverhampton	...	99,559	2.28
York	...	82,362	1.34

The following table shows the age distribution in the various diseases—

Notifiable Disease.	At all Ages	At Ages—Years.					
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and upwards.
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria,	58	1	19	23	5	10	...
Membranous Croup							
Erysipelas	74	3	...	7	11	48	5
Scarlet Fever	233	3	69	146	10	5	...
Typhus Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	12	...	1	3	4	4	...
Relapsing Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	3	...	...	...	...	3	...
Plague	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
 Totals	...	380	7	89	179	30	70
							5

The following table gives the notifications in months:—

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Totals.
Enteric Fever	1	0	1	0	2	1	1	1	3	1	1	0	12
Scarlet Fever	10	9	7	5	8	9	17	26	29	38	46	29	233
Diphtheria	4	2	5	15	5	3	2	4	5	6	7	0	58
Erysipelas	7	3	7	5	2	5	12	2	3	9	9	10	74
Small Pox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	3
	22	14	20	25	17	18	32	33	41	55	63	40	380

SCARLET FEVER.—During the first half of the year the Borough was remarkably free from this disease, as up to the end of June only 48 cases were notified.

In the month of July there was a sudden increase in the number of cases which culminated in November, when 46 cases were notified.

After this there was a gradual decline in the number of cases which during the second half of the year numbered 185.

The disease was fairly equally distributed over the various districts of the town with the exception of Winshill, which was the most severely affected, and of Stapenhill, in which only 7 cases were notified.

The cases from Winshill were chiefly associated with the Winshill Infant school, and when this became evident it was deemed advisable to carry out an inspection of the children in this school. This was done on November 15th, when 201 children were examined and 12 were sent home with symptoms more or less suspicious of mild attacks of Scarlet Fever. These children were excluded from school for various periods up to 3 weeks, and before returning to school were again visited by the Medical Officer of Health if the private medical attendant had not been called in. After this the occurrence of cases from the school suddenly ceased.

A similar inspection was also carried out in the Uxbridge Street Infant school on December 1st, when 2 children were sent home with suspicious symptoms. This was also followed by beneficial results.

Owing to the occurrence of a large number of cases in a street in the Uxbridge Ward, inquiries were instituted and 3 further cases were discovered. Subsequently a house to house visitation was carried out in this street but no further cases were found.

The following table shows the number of cases notified in each Ward, and other particulars. The number of cases removed to hospital was 202, which is equal to 86.7 per cent.

SCARLET FEVER.

Ward.	Cases.	Attack Rate per 1000.	Deaths.	Case Fatality Per cent.	Removals to Hospital Per cent.
Shobnall ..	39	5.5	0	0	79.5
Victoria ..	25	3.6	1	4.0	76.0
Horninglow ..	22	3.2	0	0	90.9
Uxbridge ..	36	4.7	0	0	94.4
Broadway ..	39	5.9	0	0	92.3
Burton ..	13	2.3	0	0	92.3
Winshill and Wetmore ..	52	8.7	0	0	84.6
Stapenhill ..	7	1.2	0	0	85.7
Total ..	233	4.4	1	0.4	86.7

DIPHTHERIA.—In the following table will be found the chief particulars relating to this disease.

DIPHTHERIA.

Ward.	Cases.	Attack rate per 1,000.	Deaths.	Case Fatality per cent.	Removal to Hospital per cent.
Shobnall	7	0·9	0	0	57
Victoria	7	1·0	1	14·3	71
Horninglow	15	2·2	3	20·0	20
Uxbridge	8	1·0	0	0	12
Broadway	7	1·0	0	0	28
Burton	6	1·0	0	0	16
Winshill and Wetmore	3	0·5	1	33·3	33
Stapenhill	5	0·8	2	40·0	0
	58	1·1	7	12·0	29%

The total number of cases notified was 58, as compared with 46 in the previous year. During February there were signs that this disease was becoming more prevalent, and the Medical Officer of Health reported on this matter and made suggestions for coping with the threatened outbreak. There was a large increase in the number of cases in April, but after that the disease was got under control.

DIPHTHERIA ANTITOXIN was supplied as usual from the Health Office for cases of Diphtheria, and was used in nearly all the cases. It was used also in a few instances for prophylactic purposes.

HOFFMANN'S PSEUDO-DIPHTHERIA BACILLUS. During April and May, in addition to an increased number of true Diphtheria cases, there was also prevalent an infectious sore throat, many of which were proved to be due to Hoffmann's Pseudo-Diphtheria Bacillus. In the cases which came under

the personal observation of the Medical Officer of Health the throat was swollen and covered with a dirty discharge, but having no true membrane. The cervical glands were slightly enlarged. In three of these cases there was a distinct rash of a measly character affecting the whole body, including the face, and not followed by desquamation. In two other cases there was a typical scarlatiniform rash followed by desquamation, and here Scarlet Fever was undoubtedly also present.

SMALLPOX.—The Borough was free from this disease during the year.

ENTERIC FEVER.—Twelve cases of this disease were notified during the year, an increase of four compared with the previous year.

Two of the cases occurred in one house, the one probably infecting the other. Here the well-water was badly polluted and the drains very defective.

Of the other cases one was infected in Blackpool, another possibly in Manchester, another probably at Great Bridge, and a fourth possibly at Rhyl.

Two of the cases proved fatal, one of those giving the history of having partaken of mussels in a public-house about 10 days before the onset of the illness, this being the probable source of infection.

Two cases were treated in the Borough Hospital, and one in the Workhouse.

ERYSIPelas.—Seventy-four cases of this disease were notified during the year, an increase of 19 as compared with the previous year.

PUERPERAL FEVER.—Only three cases were notified during the year, a decrease of two as compared with the previous year. Two of the cases were attended by midwives.

MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH.—The epidemic of Measles which was prevalent during the last few months of 1904 continued with little or no abatement for the first three months of 1905. After this the epidemic abated. In all, 1,020 cases of Measles were notified by the Education Authority.

There was an almost total absence of Whooping Cough in the Borough during the year, and only 81 cases were brought under the notice of the Health Department.

GERMAN MEASLES.—A few cases of German Measles were observed during the summer, and this disease became fairly prevalent during the latter part of the year.

CHICKEN POX.—278 cases of Chicken Pox were reported by the Education Authority during the year.

SCHOOLS AND INFECTIOUS DISEASE.—It was not found necessary to close any school during the year in order to check the spread of infectious disease. The Education Authority has continued to report to the Medical Officer of Health all cases of the non-notifiable infectious diseases coming under the notice of the teachers and school attendance officers. This has been of the greatest service to the Health

Department in the control of these diseases. The diseases notified include Measles, German Measles, Whooping Cough, and Chicken Pox. The following table gives the number of notified infectious diseases attending the various schools; the numbers under the heading of Measles should be regarded as approximate.

SCHOOLS AND INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

SCHOOL.	Measles.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.
Grange Street	48	2	11
Mission Room, Stapenhill ..	95	2	3
Hill Street, Stapenhill ..	17	—	1
Guild Street	15	4	7
Goodman and Stafford Street	92	2	7
Uxbridge Street	24	3	27
Christ Church	105	1	12
Wetmoor Road	65	—	10
Broadway Street	8	2	18
Catholic, Guild Street ..	31	—	1
Holy Trinity	99	1	1
Victoria Road	23	6	20
Winshill Schools	186	—	31
Horninglow Road	181	5	9
Bond Street	7	1	—
Wellington Street	7	—	5
Shobnall Road	—	—	3
Grammar School	—	1	—
No School	17	28	67
Totals	1,020	58	233

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.—The facilities afforded by the Corporation for Bacteriological Examinations in connection with infectious diseases have been taken advantage

of to a much greater extent than formerly. These examinations were conducted for the Corporation by the Lister Institute, London. The following is a summary of the results of the examinations :—

DISEASE.		No. Result positive.		No. Result negative.
Diphtheria	...	10	...	51
Enteric Fever	...	4	...	5
Phthisis	...	1	...	6
Totals	...	15	...	62
Total examined		—	77	—

Of the 10 positive Diphtheria swabs, one also showed the presence of Hoffmann's bacillus, this bacillus being also found in 11 of the 51 specimens which otherwise gave negative results.

BOROUGH ISOLATION HOSPITAL. — During the year 1905, 240 patients were treated in the above Hospital, as compared with 133 during the previous year. Of this number 19 were in hospital on the 1st January, 1905, and 221 fresh cases were admitted during the year. By far the greater number of these cases were admitted during the last four months of the year, when Scarlet Fever was prevalent. The greatest number under treatment at any one time was 59.

The following is a summary of the cases treated :—

Patients.	In Hospital, Jan. 1st, 1905.	Admitted.	Discharged.	Died.	In Hospital, Dec. 31st, 1905.
Smallpox...	0	0	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	18	202	174	1	45
Diphtheria	0	17	16	1	0
Enteric Fever	1	2	3	0	0
Totals	19	221	193	2	45

The ages of the patients admitted were as follows :—

Under 1 year	...	...	...	3
1 to 5 years	...	...	...	64
5 to 15 years	...	...	...	136
15 to 25 years	...	...	...	10
Over 25 years	...	...	...	8
<hr/>				<hr/>
Total				221
<hr/>				<hr/>

DEATHS.—There were two deaths in the Hospital during the year. One was due to Diphtheria. In this case the child was admitted in a moribund condition, and although tracheotomy was performed, it died within an hour of admission.

The other death was that of a child aged two years, who died of Scarlet Fever and Convulsions.

COMPLICATIONS.—The following Complications in Scarlet Fever have been recorded as having been present either on admission or having developed during the course of the disease. Several of these may have been present in the same patient.

Otorrhœa	...	...	...	...	30
Rhinorrhœa	...	...	...	...	32
Adenitis	...	...	...	...	31
Albuminuria	...	...	...	...	8
Mastoid Abscess	...	...	...	...	3
Tonsillar Abscess	...	...	...	...	2
Abscess	...	...	...	...	4
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	2
Bronchopneumonia	...	...	...	...	2
Ringworm	...	...	...	...	2
Endocarditis	...	...	...	...	4
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	3
Varicella	...	...	...	...	1
German Measles	...	...	...	...	1
Rheumatism	...	...	...	...	7
Convulsions	...	...	...	...	2
Chorea	...	...	...	...	1
Carbuncles	...	...	...	...	1
Jaundice	...	...	...	...	1
Acute Delirium	...	...	...	...	2

DIPHTHERIA.—Seventeen cases of this disease, mostly of a severe type, were treated in hospital, and a large proportion of those consisted of cases of Diphtheria of the larynx—a very trying and fatal form of the disease. With one exception all the cases recovered under treatment with moderately large doses of Diphtheria antitoxin. The fatal case was admitted in a moribund condition, and although tracheotomy was performed, the child died within an hour after admission. Antitoxin had been administered previously.

The following is a summary of the cases treated in hospital, showing the nature of the case, the amount of antitoxin administered, and the result:—

DIPHTHERIA.

No.	NATURE OF CASE.	ANTITOXIN UNITS.	RESULT.
1	Severe laryngeal ...	6500 ...	Recovery.
2	Very severe laryngeal ...	16000 ...	do.
3	Very severe laryngeal, Moribund on admission	Antitoxin before admission. Tracheotomy	Died.
4	Severe faacial & laryngeal	8000 ...	Recovery.
5	Moderate faacial ...	4000 ...	do.
6	Severe Diphtheritic con- junctivitis	6000 ...	do.
7	Severe faacial & laryngeal	10000 ...	do.
8	Mild laryngeal ...	4000 ...	do.
9	Severe laryngeal ...	8000 ...	do.
10	Moderate faacial...	4000 ...	do.
11	Mild faacial ...	4000 ...	do.
12	Mild faacial ...	2000 ...	do.
13	Mild faacial ...	2000 ...	do.
14	Moderate faacial...	6000 ...	do.
15	Severe faacial ...	10000 ...	do.
16	Mild faacial ...	2000 ...	do.
17	Moderate faacial ...	4000 ...	do.

COMPLICATIONS IN DIPHTHERIA.—The following complications were recorded in these cases:—Three developed antitoxin rashes of an urticarial character, two albuminuria, one bronchopneumonia, and one showed some signs of cardiac paralysis. Two of the cases had also varicella on admission.

HOSPITAL EXPENDITURE.—The following table shows the hospital expenditure during the financial year ending March 31st, 1905.

			£	s.	d.
Men's wages and team work	..	..	326	11	11
Matron's, Nurses', and Servants' wages and clothing	..	..	261	15	10
Provisions	..	..	233	5	7
Gas, water, and fuel	..	..	167	15	6
Rates, taxes, and Insurance	..	..	96	12	10
Repairs, painting, etc.	..	..	317	5	6
Furnishing, ironmongery, chandlery, etc.	..	..	58	7	1
Medical requisites, disinfectants, etc.	..	..	21	13	4
Keep of horse	..	..	31	0	8
Plants, seeds, etc.	..	..	16	3	9
Miscellaneous	..	..	51	11	7
New Road	..	..	23	18	6
 Total	..	..	1606	2	1
Less income	..	..	326	9	6
 Nett expenditure on maintenance	..	..	£1279	12	7

VACCINATION.—The following table is compiled from information kindly supplied to me by Mr. C. F. Chamberlin, Clerk to the Guardians. The figures relate to the whole of the Burton district, the facts for the Borough not being available separately :—

VACCINATION RETURNS.

	Jan 1st to June 30th, 1905.	1904	1903	1902	1901	1900	1899	1898	1897	1896
Births Registered ...	758	1483	1489	1493	1527	1566	1569	1600	1408	1500
Successfully Vaccinated ...	589	1113	1179	1142	1039	733	806	526	516	604
Insusceptible	0	1	2	3	0	1	6	0	0	0
Dead Unvaccinated	50	127	113	117	128	175	187	203	157	185
Exempted through "Conscientious Objection" ...	29	44	37	33	37	35	34	18	6	0
Postponed by Medi- cal Certificate ...	11	1	1	4	3	0	0	0	1	3
Left District and re- ported elsewhere	5	7	5	12	16	13	15	16	15	14
Lost sight of ...	36	64	53	45	56	49	49	33	34	89
Unaccounted for ...	38	126	99	137	248	560	472	804	677	605
Percentage Vaccin- ated ...	77	75	79	76	68	54	51.3	32.8	36.6	40.2

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.—The following table shows the number of samples taken during the year, and the number of those found to be adulterated.

Name of Article.	No. of Samples taken.	No. adulterated.
Milk	32	4
Olive Oil	6	0
Whisky	2	0
Gin	2	0
Brandy	2	0
Rum	2	0
Coffee	6	0
Chicory	1	0
Butter	10	1
Margarine	6	0
Cheese	4	0
Lard	6	0
Vinegar	6	0
 Totals	85	5

Of the four adulterated milk samples three were below the required standard to a moderate degree, and in these instances it was resolved that a warning be sent to the vendors. The fourth case was of a more serious nature, as in this instance the milk was found to be deficient in fat to the amount of 28 per cent. However, owing to very special circumstances in this case, it was decided not to take proceedings, but to also issue a warning in this instance.

The samples of milk taken in the months of March and April were of very poor quality, while those taken in July were only slightly better, but the samples taken in September were of excellent quality.

The sample of butter found to be adulterated showed on analysis the presence of 85.81 per cent. of foreign fat. Legal proceedings were taken against the vendor of this sample, and a fine of 10/- and costs was imposed.

MILK SUPPLY.—There are in the Borough 49 cow-keepers who also act as vendors of milk, and in addition there are 66 milk sellers who do not keep their own cows. Both cowsheds and milk shops have been inspected at intervals during the year, and although a few of the cowsheds are rather old and dilapidated and therefore difficult to keep clean, on the whole their condition is satisfactory.

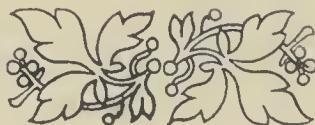
In all, 463 visits to cowsheds and milk shops have been made by the Sanitary Inspectors. One dilapidated wooden cowshed was demolished and was replaced by a good modern cowshed.

TUBERCULOUS MILK.—The powers conferred on the Council by the Burton-upon-Trent Corporation Act, 1901, for dealing with Tuberculous Milk again continued to be in force during the year. In all, 76 samples were taken and sent to Prof. Delépine to be examined for Tuberculosis. Of these, six were found to cause Tuberculosis, and 70 not to cause Tuberculosis. The six positive samples were from four farms only. In all these cases the farms were visited by Wartnaby & Sadler, Veterinary Surgeons to the Corporation, and samples of milk taken from suspicious animals, and in all cases the affected animal was found and duly isolated from other cows in milk, and the milk kept separate in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

WATER SUPPLY.—The public Water Supply of the Borough is that of the South Staffordshire Water Works Co., chiefly obtained from the gravel beds at Fradley, but a large number of houses still depend on private shallow wells for their water supply. A large number of these wells are more or less polluted, chiefly owing to their proximity to defective drains, privies, &c., and that the sub-soil is very porous. During the year samples of the public water supply have been submitted to analysis on several occasions, and have always been found to give satisfactory results.

In addition, 43 samples from shallow wells in the Borough have been analysed with the result that 27 were condemned as unfit for domestic use, five were marked as suspicious, and 11 passed.

WINSHILL WATER SUPPLY.—In November, 1905, the Health Committee reported to the Council that they had for some time previously been in negotiation with the South Staffordshire Water Works Co. for an improved water supply to Winshill, in consequence of the Company being only legally required to give such a supply as their service reservoir at the Outwoods could afford. The Committee also reported that they had received a draft of an agreement by which the Company would, before the 30th June, 1907, erect a water tower 90 ft. high, near Waterloo Clump, at a cost of about £6,500, and provide all necessary mains thereto on consideration that the Corporation pay the Company the sum of £1,000. The Health Committee recommended the Council to approve of this agreement, and the Council did so at a special meeting on November 23rd, 1905.



FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS' ACT, 1901.

The following is a list of the various workshops in the Borough:—

Plumbers	7	Boots	30
Bottlers	3	Smiths	16
Bakehouses	44	Lace	1
Tailors	41	Cabinets, &c.	11
Coach Builders	2	Saddlers	7
Corset Makers	2	Screen Makers	2
Coopers	4	Rope Makers	1
Cycle Makers	10	Brushes	1
Picture Framers	2	Jewellers	4
Tin Workers	4	Joiners	9
Clog Makers	2	Stone Masons	5
Confectioners	2	Wheelwrights	4
Millinery, &c.	53	Hosiery	1
Chemical Works	1		

The total number therefore is 269 as compared with 245 last year, and 252 and 254 in the two years immediately preceding.

These premises are inspected at intervals. During the year the total number of visits of inspection was 458, and in addition to this, 198 visits were paid to outworkers' premises. One case of infectious disease occurred in an outworker's house.

On the whole these trades are carried on under satisfactory conditions. A requisition to have premises limewashed was made on 22 occasions (8 workshops and 14 bakehouses), and was immediately carried out.

LISTS OF OUTWORKERS.—Twenty-nine lists, showing the number of outworkers to be 198, have been received during the year at the proper periods, and four addresses of outworkers have been forwarded to other Authorities.

The new home-work order received in September, 1905, added some further classes of work, but none of the new classes are to be found in Burton.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.—There are 10 Common Lodging Houses registered in the Borough to accommodate 158 persons. Visits of inspection to the number of 520 were made during the year. At least one public house takes in lodgers under conditions which would render it liable to registration if not on licensed premises. This place is not registered as a Common Lodging House, but is inspected in the same way as these houses, and no difficulty is ever put in the way.

INSPECTION OF MEAT.—The number of registered slaughter-houses in the Borough is 45, a decrease of three as compared with last year. These have been inspected frequently during the year, and visits of inspection to the number of 570 have been recorded.

One seizure of diseased meat, which weighed 4 cwt., 1 qr., was made during the year, and legal proceedings were taken against the owner who was fined £20 and costs, or in default of payment, one month imprisonment.

EFFLUVIA NUISANCES.—A large number of complaints of nuisances arising from the drying of waste grains and other processes which deal with the waste products of the breweries, and from the roasting of malt, have been received during the year. A great deal of time of the Health Department has been occupied in taking observations to verify these complaints, and in efforts to remedy the nuisances. These nuisances have been the subject of frequent reports to the Health Committee and some improvement has undoubtedly been effected. The proprietor of a malt roasting works in Horninglow has carried out extensive improvements whereby the greater part of the vapours, which gave rise to the nuisance, is carried beneath the bars of the furnace and consumed. The great difficulty here is in the collection of all the vapours, and although some of these still escape, undoubtedly a very considerable improvement has been effected.

The drying grains factory in Lichfield Street is still a source of numerous complaints, and much effort has been expended in trying to get improvements carried out on these premises, but as this matter is still sub judice it will be better to give a fuller report on the matter at a later date.

Nuisances have been recorded occasionally in connection with some other works, but not by any means at frequent intervals.

CONVERSION OF PRIVY MIDDENS AND PAN CLOSETS INTO WATER CLOSETS.

The conversion of privy middens and pan closets to the water carriage system is one of the most important sanitary improvements which could be undertaken. This is being gradually carried out under powers provided by the Burton-upon-Trent Corporation Act, 1901, whereby the Corporation are enabled to contribute towards the cost.

The work was first commenced in January, 1902, and from that date to 31st December, 1905, the total amount recommended to be contributed was £5,785 14s. 7d., and so far 330 privies and 566 pan closets have been converted (making a total of 896), and 92 additional water closets have been provided, towards 76 of which the Council have contributed, the remaining 16 having been provided at the sole expense of the owners.

MIDWIVES' ACT.—The number of midwives registered in the Borough in January, 1905, was 29. The provisions of the Act as regards inspection and the general administration of the Act have been carried out by the Medical Officer of Health who was appointed by the Health Committee to administer the Act. A considerable proportion of the midwives in Burton are too ignorant to make satisfactory midwives, and several of them can neither read nor write, so that the filling up of the numerous forms, and the keeping of their registers, can only be performed by a substitute. Also it is practically useless giving to such women books of instructions and rules. In a few years, when a better educated and better trained class of midwives is on the register, the Act will be of much greater service, but even at the present day it is of undoubted value.

All the midwives in Burton have been visited on at least two occasions each during the year, some more frequently, and inspections made of their registers, bags of appliances, &c. A considerable amount of time was spent in explaining the rules of the Central Midwives' Board, and also in trying to inculcate habits of cleanliness, and in instructing them in the use of antiseptics. The improvement, especially in the condition of their bags of appliances was very noticeable. Only

three cases of puerperal fever were registered during the year, and two of these were attended by midwives. Adequate precautions were taken to prevent the spread of the disease, and no case to case infection took place. Hence it was not found necessary to suspend any midwife from practice in order to prevent the spread of infection.

On the whole, the rather complicated rules of the Central Midwives' Board have been fairly carried out by the more intelligent midwives, but I am not convinced that the more ignorant of them could safely use all the instruments prescribed, and in few instances I have not insisted on all these being procured.

Notifications of deaths, still births, and infectious diseases, is required by the rules of the Central Midwives' Board, but I am not satisfied that all these notifications have been fulfilled. No death was notified during the year, and no case of infectious disease. Still births to the number of eight were notified, a number which appears to be below what one would expect.

The number of births registered during the year was 1333. An analysis of the midwives registers shows that of this number about 690 cases were attended by midwives. It is probable that all the registers were not complete, so that this number should really be somewhat greater.

THE METEOROLOGY.—The observations at the meteorological station at the Borough Hospital were taken by the Matron there during the year, and a summary of these for the year appear below:—

TABLE I.

BURTON-UPON-TRENT.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1905 and previous Years.

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

I.	II.	III.
Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District.	Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District.	Other Institutions, the Deaths in which have been distributed among the several localities in the District.
General Infirmary	Borough Isolation Hospital	Queen's Hospital, Birmingham
Union Workhouse	Burntwood Asylum	General Hospital, ..
	County Asylum, Cheddleton	Children's Hospital ..
	Starcross Idiot Asylum, Exeter	
	Knowle Idiot Asylum, Birmingham	

TABLE II.

BURTON-UPON-TRENT.

Vital Statistics of separate Localities in 1905 and previous years.

NAMEs OF LOCALITIES.	YEAR.	The whole District.				Shobnall.				Victoria.				Horninglow.				Uxbridge.				Broadway.				Burton.				Winshill & Wetmore.				Stapenhill.			
		Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.				
1895	...	47,353	1,572	893	211																																
1896	...	47,752	1,512	854	205																																
1897	...	48,197	1,430	725	191																																
1898	...	48,694	1,463	731	209																																
1899	...	49,245	1,429	772	191																																
1900	...	49,870	1,390	927	199																																
1901	...	50,628	1,385	703	148																																
1902	...	50,973	1,365	672	155	7,211	182	64	16	13	6,171	165	84	24	6,245	198	88	19	7,176	184	121	27	6,801	171	73	15	5,818	151	99	23	6,093	136	64	16			
1903	...	51,450	1,366	615	121	7,247	165	79	30	174	6,346	175	75	17	6,309	210	90	22	7,263	197	94	20	6,821	177	66	14	5,827	133	82	15	6,129	136	55	9			
1904	...	51,934	1,354	782	160	7,240	178	146	6,475	174	96	20	6,466	185	85	21	7,402	198	110	24	6,805	195	93	16	5,820	119	113	19	6,122	127	72	13					
Averages of years 1895 to 1904.		49,609	1,426	767	179																																
1905	...	52,424	1,333	611	116	7,115	174	81	13	6,977	193	59	10	6,817	179	81	13	7,687	227	84	25	6,593	146	63	10	5,597	118	108	14	5,977	154	57	13				

By the Burton-upon-Trent Corporation Act, 1901, which came into operation on 26th July, 1901, the Borough was re-divided into 8 Wards, in place of the previously existing 5 Wards.

BURTON=UPON=TRENT.

TABLE III.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1905.

Borough Isolation Hospital, Outwoods, Burton-on-Trent, is situated just outside the Borough boundary in the Tutbury Rural District, Staffordshire, and is provided by the Corporation of Burton.

County Borough of Burton-upon-Trent.

DEATHS REGISTERED FROM ALL CAUSES DURING THE YEAR 1905.

Causes of Death.	Deaths in or belonging to whole District at subjoined Ages.								Deaths in or belonging to Localities (of all Ages)								Total Deaths in Public Institu- tions in the District	Deaths of Outs- iders
	All Ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and up- wards	Shob- nall	Vict- oria	Horn- ing- low	Uxbri- dge	Broad- way	Bur- ton	Win. and Wet.	Stap- enhill			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16		
Small Pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	9	2	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	3	1	2	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	1	...	...	1	1
Whooping Cough	3	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Memb- ranous Croup	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	3	...	...	1	2	...	...	...
Croup	7	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fever	Typhus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric		2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	...	1	...
Epidemic Influenza	15	...	2	...	1	9	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	6	1	3	2	...
Cholera	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhoea	13	9	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	1	1	2	1	3	2	3	2	2
Enteritis	9	7	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	1	4	...	1	2	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	2	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Other Septic Diseases	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	4	...	1	2	1	...	...
Phtisis	66	...	...	2	17	45	2	14	8	8	8	11	14	1	2	12	1	...
Other Tubercular Dis- eases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cancer, Malignant Dis- ease	24	5	9	3	1	6	...	3	3	4	7	2	...	2	3	2	1	...
Bronchitis	40	...	...	...	...	...	22	18	5	2	5	8	9	2	5	4	6	3
Pneumonia	49	11	3	1	...	16	18	7	2	9	6	6	11	2	6	6	6	2
Pleurisy	30	5	10	2	1	7	5	5	3	5	3	3	4	3	4	8	4	1
Other Diseases of Res- piratory Organs	2	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
Alcoholism	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cirrhosis of Liver	11	...	...	...	...	...	10	1	2	...	4	...	1	2	2	...	1	...
Venereal Diseases	3	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	1	...
Marasmus and Premature Birth	42	42	...	...	...	...	...	7	4	2	8	5	8	3	5	5	5	1
Diseases and Accidents of Parturition	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Heart Diseases	59	...	...	4	2	31	22	7	9	8	5	6	10	6	8	14	7	...
Accidents	14	2	6	3	1	1	1	...	2	4	1	3	1	3	...	14	8	...
Suicides	3	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
Hemiplegia & Apoplexy	10	...	...	...	...	2	8	4	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Old Age	35	...	...	...	...	5	30	2	3	3	5	5	10	4	3	26	11	...
Convulsions	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Brights Disease	14	...	...	...	...	9	5	2	1	...	2	1	2	2	4	3	...	...
Congenital Defects	5	4	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	...	...	...	...
Not Certified	9	7	1	...	1	...	...	1	1	1	2	2	3	3	2	...	...	...
All other causes	125	15	6	6	9	57	32	18	13	17	13	8	23	15	18	30	5	...
All Causes	611	116	53	22	36	234	150	81	59	81	84	63	108	57	78	139	48	...

County Borough of Burton-upon-Trent.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1905.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1-2 mon.-ths.	2-3 mon.-ths.	3-4 mon.-ths.	4-5 mon.-ths.	5-6 mon.-ths.	6-7 mon.-ths.	7-8 mon.-ths.	8-9 mon.-ths.	9-10 mon.-ths.	10-11 mon.-ths.	11-12 mon.-ths.	Total Deaths under One Year.
All Causes.	{ Certified ... Uncertified ...	28 4	5	2	7	42 4	8 1	8	6	4	7	3	7	10	7	4	3 2	109 7
Common Infectious Diseases.	Small-pox Chicken-pox Measles Scarlet Fever Diphtheria : Croup Whooping Cough Diarrhoea, all forms Enteritis (not Tuberculous)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhoeal Diseases.	Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	...	1	1	9
Wasting Diseases.	Premature Birth Congenital Defects Injury at Birth Want of Breast-milk Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	18 1 1 ...	2 3 ...	2 4 1	22 ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24 4 1 ...
Tuberculous Diseases.	Tuberculous Meningitis Tuberculous Peritonitis Tabes Mesenterica Other Tuberculous Diseases Erysipelas Syphilis Rickets Meningitis (not Tuberculous) Convulsions Bronchitis Laryngitis Pneumonia Suffocation, overlaying Other Causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	3	...	1	1	23 3 ...
		32	5	2	7	46	9	8	6	4	7	3	7	10	7	4	5	116

Annual Report of Medical Officer of Health for Year 1905,
FOR THE
County Borough of Burton-upon-Trent.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, LAUNDRIES, WORKPLACES and HOMEWORK.

1.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices	Prosecutions.
Factories	—	—	—
(including Factory Laundries)			
Workshops	458	22	—
(including Workshop Laundries)			
Workplaces	—	—	—
Homeworkers' Premises	198	—	—
Total	656	22	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—</i>				
Want of Cleanliness	22	22	—	—

3.—OTHER MATTERS.

CLASS.	Number.
<i>Underground Bakehouses:—In use at end of year</i> ...	0
Lists. Out-workers	
Homework:—Lists of Outworkers' received	29 198
Addresses of Outworkers forwarded to other Authorities	4
Received from other Authorities	—
<i>Homework in Unwholesome or Infected Premises:—</i>	
Cases of Infectious Disease notified in Homeworkers' Premises	
Wearing Apparel.	
<i>Workshops on the Register at end of year:—</i>	
Including those Bakehouses which do not come under the heading of Factories	269

Report of Sanitary Inspector.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

TOWN HALL,

BURTON-UPON-TRENT,

January, 1906.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF
THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to lay before you a Summary of the work done in my Department and the number of Nuisances abated during the past year.

WORKSHOPS.—There are at the present time 269 Workshops in the Borough (including those Bakehouses which do not come under the heading of Factories), as against 245 last year. During the year I have had to require the limewashing of eight Workshops and 14 Bakehouses, the requirement has at once been complied with. Two complaints have been received during the year from the Factory Inspector with reference to limewashing Workshops, and one case of infectious disease has occurred in an outworker's house.

List of Trades carried on in Workshops :

Plumbers	..	..	7	Boots	..	..	30
Bottlers	..	..	3	Smiths	..	..	16
Bakehouses	..	..	44	Lace	..	..	1
Tailors	..	..	41	Cabinet, &c.	..	..	11
Coach Builders	..	..	2	Saddlers	..	..	7
Corset Makers	..	..	2	Screen Makers	..	..	2
Coopers	..	..	4	Rope Makers	..	..	1
Cycle Makers	..	..	10	Brushes	..	..	1
Picture Framers	..	..	2	Jewellers	..	..	4
Tin Workers	..	..	4	Joiners	..	..	9
Clog Makers	..	..	2	Stone Masons	..	..	5
Confectioners	..	..	2	Wheelwrights	..	..	4
Millinery, &c.	..	..	53	Hosiery	..	..	1
Chemical Works	..	..	1				

FOOD AND DRUGS.—Under the Food and Drugs Acts, 85 samples of Food and Drugs have been taken by me during the past year and handed to the Public Analyst who has, from time to time, reported the results thereof to you.

There are, at the present time, 10 Common Lodging Houses in the Borough to accommodate 164 persons. 45 Slaughterhouses, 55 Bakehouses, and 115 Milksellers of whom 49 are Cowkeepers.

CATTLE DISEASE.—During the past year there has been 19 cases reported as suspected Swine Fever, of which only one case was confirmed by the Board of Agriculture, this case being amongst an importation of pigs from Norfolk, and no other case of cattle disease has occurred during the year. 12 stray dogs have been seized, 11 of which were destroyed, and one (a fox-hound) was claimed by the owners.

During the year 76 samples of milk have been taken by me from milksellers and dairymen for Bacteriological Examination by Professor Delepine, the results of these examinations have already been reported to you, as also the results of further tests taken by the Medical Officer of Health and the Veterinary Inspectors.

PROSECUTIONS.—Under the Food and Drugs Acts, one. Fine, 10s. and 13s. 6d. costs.

Under the Public Health Act (Diseased Meat), one. Fine, £20 and £1 16s. 6d. costs. One month's imprisonment in default of payment.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

WM. READING,

Inspector of Nuisances.

Foul and defective Ashpits filled up	..	..	..	21
Defective Ashpits repaired	..	..	..	22
Defective Privies repaired	..	..	..	34
Defective Privies converted to Pan System	..	..	..	4
Foul and defective Privies converted to W.C.'s	..	..	..	71
Water Closets repaired	..	..	..	10
Yard Drains trapped	..	..	..	75
Drains cleansed from obstruction or repaired	..	..	..	64
Defective Drains reconstructed	..	..	..	40
Spout Drains repaired	..	..	..	37
Urinals repaired	..	..	..	1
Accumulations of Manure and offensive matter removed	..	..	..	43
Nuisances from Swine (removed)	..	..	..	2
Nuisances from Swine (abated)	..	..	..	15
Houses cleansed	..	..	..	49
Workshops limewashed	..	..	..	8
Bakehouses limewashed	..	..	..	14
Slaughter-houses limewashed	..	..	..	11
Houses repaired	..	..	..	27
Filthy premises cleansed	..	..	..	22
Yards paved or repaired	..	..	..	22
Cases of overcrowding dealt with	..	..	..	1
Water supplied	..	..	..	12
Miscellaneous nuisances abated	..	..	..	14
Preliminary notices issued	..	..	..	422
Statutory notices issued	..	..	..	25
Visits to Workshops	..	..	..	458
,, Slaughter-houses	..	..	..	557
,, Cowsheds and Milkshops	..	..	..	463
,, Bakehouses	..	..	..	222
,, Lodging houses	..	..	..	520
,, Outworker's premises	..	..	..	198

Report of Superintendent of Night Soil Dept.

REFUSE REMOVAL AND DESTRUCTOR DEPT.,

TOWN HALL,

BURTON-ON-TRENT,

March, 1906.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF
THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

Annual Report, 1905-6.

I beg to submit my Annual Report, showing the work done during the past 12 months, and the present condition of this Department.

REFUSE REMOVAL.—The number of men employed at this work is 57—a permanent reduction of two men compared with the previous year—and in a few weeks' time I shall be able to dispense with the services of another man.

The sick and allowance pay for the year amounts to £36 5s. compared with £42 5s. the previous year.

T. Smith continues to receive an allowance of 5/- weekly, granted to him in September, 1902.

29 horses are engaged in the whole of the carting, &c. — a permanent reduction of two horses. .

Owing to our system being a mixed one of pans and pits, most of the horses are working partly at ashes removal, at night soil removal, and clinker removal, &c., but if they were engaged on separate work—it would work out as near as possible as follows :—

12 horses removing house refuse.

9 ,, ,, night soil.

4 ,, distributing clean pans and collecting dirty ones.

2 ,, removing clinker and fine ashes.

1 horse chaining loads up to Destructor and odd jobs.

1 ,, light floater work.

—
—
29 Total.

I am glad to be able to state that the health of the horses has been excellent during the year, and no accident of any note has had to be recorded.

Three fresh animals have been purchased recently—they are settling down to work and will, I believe, turn out satisfactory. It is proposed to purchase three more during the ensuing year.

The vehicles have been kept in good repair, and 14 ash carts and two floaters have been painted by the Corporation Stores Department during the year.

The estimated cost of working the department and maintenance of plant, as sanctioned by the Council, was £6,400.

The approximate cost is £6,060, or £340 below the estimate, which, I feel sure, the Committee will consider satisfactory.

The estimate for the ensuing year is £5,965, which is £435 less than estimated last year.

As regards the conversion of pan closets and privies to water closets—I ought to first state that in my report for 1904-5, I gave the total number of conversions that had been made since November, 1900—because at that time owners had, in a few cases, converted at their own expense.

My return is now made up from January, 1902, at which period the Health Committee first took the matter in hand, and commenced making grants towards the conversion of pan closets and privies to water closets.

Before giving details of the alterations that have taken place—I may say that my object is to state such particulars as plainly as possible, and in order to do this I have taken the following extract from the Borough Surveyor's report of 25th September, 1901 :—

“ There are, at the present time, 8,955 pan closets and
 “ privies in the Borough, of these, 8,562 are provided
 “ to houses, and 394 to school and business premises.

“ The extent of the undertaking to convert practically
 “ 9,000 pan closets and privies into water closets will
 “ probably be best understood by the fact that if 20
 “ are converted every week, it will take nearly nine
 “ years to carry out the powers of the Corporation,
 “ and, I think, if it is the intention of the Corporation
 “ to carry out the scheme, it will require no other
 “ argument than this to show that such cannot be
 “ successfully brought to completion unless the work
 “ is gone about in an energetic, methodical, and

“systematic way, and in the method of carrying out
“the work one particular object should be borne in
“mind, namely: that whatever expenditure is in-
“curred, a proportionate saving in the present cost
“of the night soil collection and disposal should be
“made. This can only be fully attained by dealing
“with the town in sections, each section being com-
“pleted in its turn so as to avoid complications in
“the work, and not increasing the distance to be
“travelled by the night soil carts.”

According to the Borough Surveyor's report of 2nd March, 1887 pan closets and privies had been converted to water closets up to 28th February last, *i.e.*, in four years and two months, and these have been made in oddments all over the Borough—not in sections as suggested.

Deduct the above number already converted from 8,955 and it will be seen there still remain 7,968 to be converted.

The average number of conversions (during four years and two months) is less than five per week, which means that unless greater progress is made in the future than in the past, it will take 20 years or more to complete the scheme.

The number of new houses erected during the same period as the conversions have been in hand is 783—from which house refuse has to be removed weekly.

It will, therefore, be perceived that although we have 987 less houses to collect night soil from—we have 783 additional houses to collect house refuse from—this clearly shows that the reduction of work in the Department is but a comparatively small item.

As stated last year—the men whose work is cancelled as regards night soil collection—are the men who are put on to collect house refuse from the 783 new houses.

From a glance at the following summary it will be observed what reduction in work has actually taken place.

622	pan closets converted to w.c.'s...	...	987	decrease
365	privies converted to w.c.'s ..	...		of work.
240	new houses erected during—	1902	744	increase
203	„ „ „	1903		
164	„ „ „	1904		
156	„ „ „	1905		
20	„ (Jan.-Feb.)	1906		of work.
783			243	actual
39	deduct houses demolished.			decrease.
744	Net total of additional ash-pans.			

There are about 300 empty houses in the Borough, but they are scattered in all the districts (except in one or two instances) and although unoccupied they have to be retained on the men's lists owing to changes of tenancy, and in a number of cases the men have to go to other houses down the same entry for refuse, this, therefore, does not cause a decrease of work—to any great extent.

Owing to our carters being able to collect house refuse from rather more houses than which they can collect the contents of sanitary pans from, it has enabled me to make a permanent reduction (which in a few weeks time will be three men, and two horses). I ought, however, to add that one man and one horse have been taken off pan distribution and collection (not refuse removal) as they were engaged only part time at the work.

The work done during the year is as follows :—

Dry ashpits emptied	...	1,001	...	decrease	...	81
Cesspools	„	129	„	„	...	26
Combined pits	„	1,381	„	„	...	134
Sanitary pans	„	357,025	„	„	...	7,812
Ash pans	„	345,634	...	increase	...	11,726

The following is a list of additions and alterations during the year :—

302 pan closets, and 104 combined pits have been converted to the water carriage system.

Eleven sanitary pans have been put in use, nine in Charles Street, at Mr. Cooper's property; and two in Wood's Lane, Staphenhill.

156 ashpans have been put in use at new houses.

297 ashpans for old houses in place of combined closets and ashpits.

The total quantity of manure disposed of by trucks from the Gas Sidings Depôt is 1,023 tons, compared with 1,048 tons last year.

The remainder has been tipped, as usual, at the country depots, which averages about 33 loads excreta, and 22 loads ashes weekly.

When Mr. Haywood's Depôt account was paid in October last, several members of the Committee considered that the rent paid for his land was too much, consequently, I was instructed to see Mr. Haywood and ask him if he could see

his way to reduce the rent. Mr. Haywood wrote shortly afterwards offering to take £40 instead of £50, and the Committee, after consideration, made an offer of £35 to include all charges — which is accepted—but Mr. Haywood points out that he cannot promise as much land as in previous years.

DESTRUCTOR.—The number of men employed is the same as last year, viz.: 12. Extra assistance has, however, to be given during the busiest period of the year.

Sick pay amounts to £5 5s., compared with £4 19s. the previous year.

The approximate weight of refuse dealt with at the Destructor is 10,590 tons, compared with 10,450 tons last year—an increase of 140 tons.

The clinker is carted to Derby Road Depôt, Ash Street, Eton Road, Kimmersitch Street, &c., while the dust is being used, as usual, for mixing up the night soil manure.

Machinery for the removal, &c., of the clinker is now being fixed at Bond End, and, when completed, the clinker will be conveyed to the sewage farm as arranged.

In reply to circulars sent out respecting old galvanised pans, buckets, &c., and also old tins—I received seven replies—and after going through them with the Chairman, it was decided to accept the following:—

H. Wright, Sheffield, for old galvanised pans and buckets, 15s. 3d. per ton.

M. King, Burton, for old tins, 10s. per ton.

The general repairs did not cost quite as much as anticipated during the year.

It is proposed to paint the Destructor premises (except the chimney bands) during the ensuing year, and this has been arranged for in the new estimate.

More fire-bars and also several back-bearers will be required next year as our stock is almost exhausted.

The estimated cost of working the Destructor and maintenance of plant was fixed at £1,140, and the approximate cost is £1,106.

Taking the Refuse Removal Department and the Destructor together, the approximate expenditure is £374 under the estimates.

Your obedient Servant,

F. TURNER,

Superintendent.

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